

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A) (45)

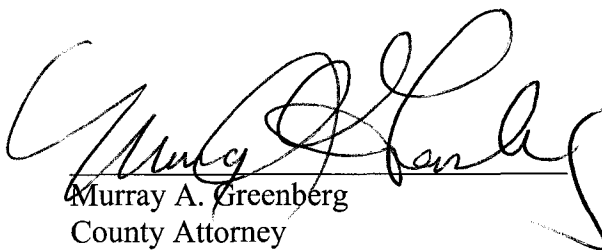
TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 24, 2006

FROM: Murray A. Greenberg
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging federal
government to revisit its
"Wet Foot-Dry Foot"
policy

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Chairman Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle, Commissioner Natacha Seijas, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and Senator Javier D. Souto.


Murray A. Greenberg
County Attorney

MAG/bw



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- ☐ Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- ☐ No committee review

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(45)
01-24-06

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO
REVISIT ITS "WET FOOT-DRY FOOT" POLICY

WHEREAS, current federal policy allows refugees who reach United States soil to avoid immediate repatriation; and

WHEREAS, this policy contains several significant flaws as indicated by recent events wherein individuals who arrived at a "non-functional" bridge in the Florida Keys were not allowed to remain in the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is, therefore, evident that the federal government's "Wet Foot-Dry Foot" policy is not being applied consistently and gives extensive latitude to federal employees to make the determination on a case by case basis as to which individuals will be allowed to remain in the United States, thus leading to inconsistent results which do not seem to effectuate the original intent of the policy; and

WHEREAS, the most recent repatriation of those Cuban immigrants at a "non-functioning" bridge in the Florida Keys has caused a great deal of unrest in the Cuban community,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. This Board urges President Bush and his Administration, the United States Senate, and the United States House of Representatives to revisit the "Wet Foot-Dry Foot" policy in light of recent events in the Florida Keys, with the intent of developing specific policy guidelines for federal employees to follow in an effort to eliminate inconsistent results and to effectuate decisions consistent with the original intent of the policy.

Section 2. The Clerk of the Board is directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to President Bush, Senators Nelson and Martinez, the United States House of Representatives and the members of the Miami-Dade County Congressional Delegation.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Chairman Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle, Commissioner Natacha Seijas, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and Senator Javier D. Souto and offered by Commissioner

, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner
and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman	
Dennis C. Moss, Vice-Chairman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Audrey M. Edmonson	Carlos A. Gimenez
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Dorrin D. Rolle	Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

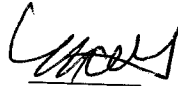
The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 24th day of January, 2006. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Murray A. Greenberg

